STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 98-833

November 3,1998

NEW SHARON WATER DISTRICT Application for Approval of Issue of Securities (§ 902) (\$108,000) ORDER

WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT and DIAMOND, Commissioners

On October 30, 1998, the New Sharon Water District (the District) filed with the Commission its application for authority to issue its bond in a sum not to exceed \$108,000 through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, at an annual rate not to exceed 4.75 percent. The debt will be paid over a term not to exceed 40 years.

Pursuant to an amended Delegation Order dated January 9, 1996 in Docket No. 93-169, the Commission delegated to the Director of Finance its authority under 35-A M.R.S.A., Chapter 9, and 11, to approve water utility financing applications, including those that involve mortgaging utility property, for MMBB, RECDA and their successors. This delegation in no way limits the Commission's authority to review the decision of the Director of Finance pursuant thereto or to directly consider requests for variations. The Director of Finance's approval shall be in the form of an Order, copies of which shall be maintained in the files of the office of the Administrative Director.

The District requires these funds to construct a storage reservoir, a distribution and transmission line and replace mains and other upgrades.

Having reviewed the application of the district, together with data filed in support of it, it is the opinion of the Commission that the proceeds of the issuance of the bond are required in good faith for the purposes enumerated in 35-AM.R.S.A. § 901. In approving this securities issue, consistent with normal practice and pursuant to § 902(4), the Commission does not imply approval of the District's capital needs or capitalization ratio for ratemaking purposes, nor does this Order limit or restrict the powers of the Commission in determining or fixing any rate.

Accordingly, pursuant to the Amended Delegation Order dated January 9, 1996, in Docket No. 93-169, I

ORDER

- 1. That the New Sharon Water District is hereby authorized to issue its bond in a sum not to exceed \$108,000 to be used solely for the purposes described in this Order, and at a rate not to exceed 4.75 percent per year through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development for a term not to exceed 40 years.
- 2. That the District report to the Commission, in writing its doings pursuant to this Order within sixty (60) days of the date of the issue of the proposed bond, or by January 15, 1999, whichever may come first.
- 3. That a copy of this Order be mailed to interested parties and this Docket be closed.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 3rd day of November, 1998

BY ORDER OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Richard Kania Deputy Director of Finance